## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (New):  An image forming apparatus for processing image data, comprising:

an image data processing unit including a graphics port and a peripheral device interconnection port, the peripheral device interconnection port configured to be connected to a print engine;

a first image data memory configured to store image data; and

a unit connected to the graphics port of the image data processing unit and having a function to interface between the image data processing unit and the first image data memory, wherein the first image data memory is connected to the image data processing unit via the unit.

Claim 17 (New):  The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first image data memory stores compressed image data.

Claim 18 (New):  The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the image data processing unit further includes an interface with a second image data memory, and the image data processing unit outputs image data stored in the second image data memory, the image data stored in the second image data memory being transferred from the first image data memory to the second image data memory through the interface of the image data processing unit.

Claim 19 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the image data processing unit reads compressed image data from the second image data memory, and decompresses the read compressed image data and outputs the decompressed image data to the print engine.

Claim 20 (New): An image forming apparatus for processing image data, comprising:

an image data processing unit including a graphics port and a peripheral device interconnection port, the peripheral device interconnection port configured to be connected to a print engine;

a first image data memory configured to store image data; and

means, connected to the graphics port of the image data processing unit, for interfacing between the image data processing unit and the first image data memory,

wherein the first image data memory is connected to the image data processing unit via the means for interfacing.

Claim 21 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the first image data memory stores compressed image data.

Claim 22 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the image data processing unit further includes an interface with a second image data memory, and the image data processing unit outputs image data stored in the second image data memory, the image data stored in the second image data memory being transferred from the first image data memory to the second image data memory through the interface of the image data processing unit.

Claim 23 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein the image data processing unit reads compressed image data from the second image data memory, and decompresses the read compressed image data and outputs the decompressed image data to the print engine.

Claim 24 (New): A method of transferring image data to a print engine in an image data processing unit including a graphics port and a peripheral device interconnection port, the peripheral device interconnection port configured to be connected to a print engine, the method comprising:

storing the image data in a first memory; and

interfacing, through a unit connected to the graphics port of the image data processing unit, between the image data processing unit and the first image data memory,

wherein the first image data memory is connected to the image data processing unit via the unit.

Claim 25 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the first image data memory stores compressed image data.

Claim 26 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the image data processing unit further includes an interface with a second image data memory, and the method further comprising:

outputting by the image data processing unit, image data stored in the second image data memory, and transferring the image data stored in the second image data memory from the first image data memory to the second image data memory through the interface of the image data processing unit.

Claim 27 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

reading, by the image data processing unit, compressed image data from the second image data memory, and decompressing the read compressed image data and outputting the decompressed image data to the print engine.